



Our Home, Our Country, and our Brother Man.

BREEDS AND RACES.

ATYSHIRE CATTLE. The leading breeds of cattle, at the present day, are the Durham, Herefords, Ayrshires, Devonshires, Jerseys and Galloways. Of these cattle we consider the three first named as breeds, by which we mean that they have been manufactured by the skill of man by breeding for a series of years from various kinds of cattle, until certain points and characteristics have become established in them, and are with care kept up with comparative ease. The three last, Devons, Jerseys and Galloways, we consider races made, not by man, but established by nature. We are aware that there may be exceptions taken to this position, but we think we are right. The three first named breeds, if not bred with care and skill, will degenerate fast.—They are constantly tending back to their original state, "harking back" as the breeders say, while the three last, if not bred with care and skill, will nevertheless retain their peculiar characteristics. They may vary in some points and become diminished in size through neglect, but they will still keep up their distinctive characteristics, and unless you mix foreign blood with them, they will continue to be what they were in the start—Devons will be Devons, Jerseys continue Jerseys, and Galloways Galloways. We are aware that some writers say that the Galloways, seventy years ago, had horns. We doubt it, but, if they had, it would not materially change the result. The main features of Galloways do not depend upon the having or not having horns, but upon their peculiar shape, general form, and the staining of the animal, which adapt it to peculiar localities and habits of life.

We present this week, a very fine cut of an Ayrshire cow, representing one of the herd purchased last summer, in Ayrshire (Scotland), by Sanford Howard, Esq., for Dr. Geo. B. Loring, of Salem, Mass.

The Ayrshire breed of cattle are found in the county of Ayrshire, in Scotland, and have been produced by breeders in that country, by crosses with different varieties of cattle, with a view of obtaining a hardy cow of medium size, that should possess great milking properties.

Without going into details, in regard to their origin, we would say, that, as milkers, giving a large flow of milk, of rather rich quality, they undoubtedly exceed many others. Flint in his recent work on milch cows, makes the following remarks in regard to them:—

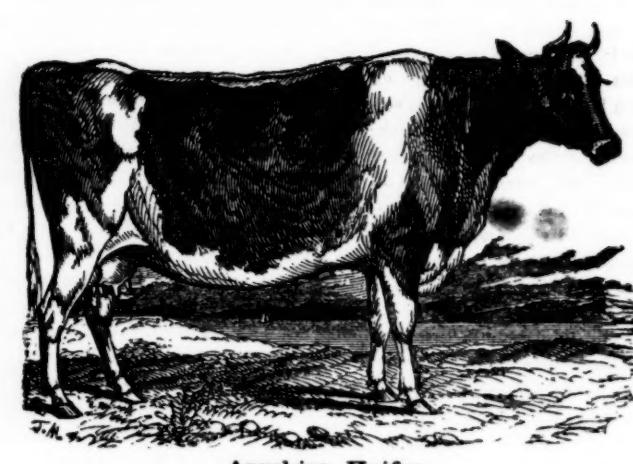
"Youatt estimates the daily yield of an Ayrshire cow for the first two or three months after calving, at five gallons a day, on an average; for the next three months, at three gallons; and for the next four months, at one gallon and a half. This would be 850 gallons as the annual average of a cow; but, allowing for some unproductive cows, he estimates the average of a dairy at 600 gallons per annum for each cow. Three gallons and a half of the Ayrshire cow's milk will yield one and a half pounds of butter. He therefore reckons 257 pounds of butter, or 514 pounds of cheese, at the rate of 24 pounds to 28 gallons of milk, as the yield of every cow, at a fair and perhaps rather low average, in an Ayrshire dairy, during the year. Aiton sets the yield much higher, saying that 'thousands of the best Ayrshire dairy-cows, when in prime condition and well fed, produce 1000 gallons of milk per annum; that in general three and three-quarters to four gallons of their milk will yield a pound and a half of butter; and that 274 gallons of their milk will make 21 pounds of full-milk cheese.' Mr. Rankin puts it lower—at about 650 to 700 gallons to each cow; on his own farm of inferior soil, his dairy produced an average of 550 gallons only.

"One of the four cows originally imported into this country by John P. Cushing, Esq., of Massachusetts, gave in one year 3384 quarts, bear measure, or about 404 gallons, at ten pounds to the gallon, being an average of ten over and a half bushels quarts a day for the whole year. It is asserted, on good authority, that the first Ayrshire cow imported by the Massachusetts Society for the Promotion of Agriculture, in 1837, yielded sixteen pounds of butter a week, for several weeks in succession, on grass feed only. These yields are not so large as those stated by Aiton; but it should, perhaps, be recollected that our climate is less favorable to the production of milk than that of England and Scotland, and that no cow imported after arriving at maturity could be expected to yield as much, under the same circumstances, one bred on the spot where the trial is made, and perfectly acclimated."

He also says:—

"According to Mr. Harley, the most approved shape and marks of a good dairy cow are as follows: Head small, long, and narrow towards the muzzle; horns small, clear, bent, and placed at considerable distance from each other; eyes not large, but brisk and lively; neck slender and long, tapering towards the head, with a little loose skin below; shoulders and fore quarters light and thin; hind quarters large and broad; back straight, and joints slack and open; carcase deep in the rib; tail small and long, reaching to the heels; legs small and short, with firm joints; udder square, but a little oblong, stretching forward; thin-skinned and capacious, but not low hung; teats or paps small, pointing outwards, and at a considerable distance from each other; milk-veins capacious and prominent; skin loose, thin, and soft like a glove; hair short, soft and woolly; general figure, when in flesh, handsome and well proportioned."

"If this description of the Ayrshire cow be correct, it will be seen that her head and neck are remarkably clean and fine, the latter swelling towards the shoulders, both parts being unencumbered with superfluous flesh. The same general form extends backwards, the fore quarters being light, the shoulders thin, and the carcase swelling out towards the hind quarters, so that stand-



Ayrshire Heifer.

WAIFS FROM OUR COPY DRAWER.

SALT IN WHEAT. Mr. Thos. Means, of Sedgwick, informs us that the following preventive of salt in wheat may be relied upon as thoroughly effectual. He has never known it to fail when properly tried.—Put the seed wheat into a coarse cloth, and dip it into boiling water, holding it there merely long enough for the water to pass through the wheat. The only caution required is not to hold it in long enough to kill the vitality of the seed.

HORSE AIL. A correspondent at Brown's Corner, Vassalboro', "W.," informs us that he cured a case of horse ail in the following manner:—He had a colt which, while working about as usual, was taken with a swelling in the neck, and symptoms of the horse ail. Thinking to effect a cure, he smoked him, but without success. He then made a cut in his breast, and put in an onion. This was done on Friday, and on Monday the swelling was all gone and the colt greatly improved. The manner of performing the operation is to just cut through the skin, form a sort of bag by inserting the finger into the skin and flesh, and then drop in the onion.

HANDSOME STOCK. A pair of grade Durham steers, owned by Mr. Abel Hoxie, of North Fairfield, two years old the past spring, girth seven feet and three inches,—are well proportioned, smooth and handsome. He also has a grade Durham calf thus weighed, when dropped, one hundred and thirty-two pounds. Such stock as this is worth having.

GUANO AND BONE DUST. A subscriber wishes to know the cost per ton hundred weight of bone dust and guano, and where he can procure them. He will have to pay, for Peruvian guano, \$60 per ton. The bone dust will cost from 50 to 75 cents per bushel, and he will have to send to Boston for it. Mr. John McArthur, Augusta, can furnish the guano. Mr. B. V. French, at his farina agency, 51 and 52 Market St., Boston, will procure either or both articles for you.

POTATOES vs. CORN. At a recent meeting of the Waterville Farmers' Club, the subject for discussion was "Hood Crops." Some valuable facts were elicited. The question being which is the more profitable, corn or potatoes, it was decided that potatoes yielded the most profit. This decision may not seem a fair one to many, but in its decision, the Club were governed by figures and facts which were incontrovertible. The Mail gives us the following as the summing up of the matter:—

"Col. Marston, as usual, was ready with facts and figures, which were victorious, as they ought ever to be, over mere 'guess work.' In the opinion of those present, 30 loads of manure, valued at \$1.00 a load, are applied to corn to yield 86.67. To this it was thought should be added, \$1.33, with three dollars for applying 10 loads in the hill instead of broadcast; and two dollars for extra labor of hoeing the corn—making in all a charge against the corn crop of thirteen dollars. The harvesting and husking of the corn was set against the digging of the potatoes, and the fodder was estimated at ten dollars.

"Now, for the last ten years, the average yield of corn, with the Colonel, has been 37 bushels per acre, and the average price 95 cents—making the average receipts thirty-five dollars and fifty-two cents: while the average yield of potatoes, in the same time, had been 82 bushels; the average price 50 cents; and the average receipts forty-one dollars fifty-two cents—receipting nothing for the small ones and those partially decayed, that were fed to stock.

"Here was a difference in receipts, as will be readily seen, of \$5.45 in favor of potatoes; which added to the extra manure and cost of cultivation, minus the value of the fodder (13—10.3) makes \$8.48. Now deducting \$1.48 from this, for the difference in cost of seed, and the result is in favor of the potatoes, to the amount of \$7.00 per acre."

Discussions like the above will be found very profitable to our Farmers' Clubs. There are many crops whose comparative profits it would trouble many even of our best farmers to determine. The only way by hearing and comparing the evidence for and against, and showing the figures to back up the statements made. There is nothing so convincing as the footings of the debt and credit accounts, and a balance on the wrong side will do more to settle the question under debate than hours of talking and acres of guessework.

FOR THE MAINE FARMER. VALUE OF CORN FODDER.

I have been a farmer for a number of years, but never knew the value of corn fodder until the present season. On the fodder of a little less than one-half acre of corn, I kept a horse and a cow from the 15th of October, 1858, to the 1st of March, 1859, (3 months.) My horse had no more grain than I have usually given him when feeding on good hay, viz.—one peck of oats per day. He worked every day, or nearly so, hauling sand upon a cranberry bog. I chopped the fodder in a common hay cutter, and the cow always eat up what the horse left. Aside from the chopped corn fodder, the cow had but an occasional "mess" of roots. Since the 15th of last month, I have chopped some oat straw and mixed it with the cornfodder in equal quantities, of which mixture I have enough to last this month out. I have not fed 50 lbs. of hay this winter. I husked from the same ground about 100 bushels of ears of corn, besides considerable that was too green to save. I also sold 4 tons of pumpkins, at \$2.00 per ton, retaining several loads for my own use. I cut up my corn before the frost, bound it in bundles and carefully stacked it in the field. After husking, I took care to have the stalks set erect upon loose floors, to prevent them from moulding.

I think farmers generally would do well to take more pains in saving their corn fodder, especially in seasons when hay is short. I think, too, that there is more advantage in cutting it, than in cutting any other fodder, as cattle and horses will unavoidably leave the large stalks, if uncut, which will pass into the manure heap, where they are found far more troublesome than useful. Will others let us hear from them in regard to it.

GEO. RICHARDSON.

Kendall's Mills, 2d mo. 7th, 1859.

WHERE A MAN'S BUSINESS IS, THERE IS THE PLACE FOR HIS RELIGION TO MANIFEST ITSELF.

FARMER

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE

For the Maine Farmer.

TANNING WITH SWEET FERN.
MESSRS. EDITOR:—Spending a few days at So. China, and having heard of the new mode of tanning recently introduced by Messrs. Russell & Harrington, we concluded to make a little investigation in relation to the matter; and so visited some shop where it was being made up, saw some of the leather that had been worn for some time, and learned the following facts:

First, that the process of tanning is much cheaper, and requires only about half of the usual time. One ton of sweet fern is equal to about four cords of hemlock bark, and costs only about ten dollars per ton, while the average cost of bark in the State is about five dollars per cord, thereby saving half of the expense in that article so largely used in tanning. Bark in the Middle States will average eight or ten dollars per cord. There will also be a saving of the cost of grinding, which amounts to about one dollar per cord.

Again, those who have made it up, and those who have worn it, to be far superior to that tanned in the usual way, so much so that the demand for it, where it has been introduced, cannot be met. It excels in these particulars—the leather is much tougher, hence less liable to tear; while the old process seems to weaken its fibrous texture, this process leaves the leather with its original strength, and as a natural consequence, it will wear longer. It also has another very desirable quality, that of being impervious to water: when worn in the water, none is able to enter, and you may see this in the texture of the leather, it being closer than that tanned in the usual way. This single quality, of great value, and ought at once to command its use.

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THE MAINE FARMER: AN AGRICULTURAL AND FAMILY



AUGUSTA:
THURSDAY MORNING, MARCH 10, 1859.

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY.—NO. 6.

Baltimore, although, like too many other cities, cured its own "blood tubs" and other deformities of poor human nature, is, nevertheless, one of the most thriving and moral cities in the Union. There is a *snap* and a *business life* to it which gives it a New England type and character. Its numerous churches—schools and seminaries of learning—its charitable institutions—old and long established mercantile houses—wealth, activity, and more than all, the high moral tone and worth of the great bulk of its citizens, make it one of the most influential communities with Mason's and Dixon's line. It bore its share of burthens and privations in the dark days of the Revolution. It was a point of attack by the British in the war of 1812, and some of its best blood was poured out in repulsing them from the city, and in defense of the country. The enemy seized Washington and burnt the Capitol, but at Baltimore they were driven from the field and turned back with the loss of some of the best officers in their army.

Temperance men should hold it in grateful remembrance, for it was here the Washingtonians commenced their labors, and dissemination of those principles which have saved so many from the terrible sufferings and crushing evils of intemperance and inaugurated a new era in the temperance reform. The farmers of the Union have reason to hold it in high respect, for it was here the lamented Skinner started the "American Farmer," the first weekly Agricultural paper ever published in this country. By the way, his friends tell a good anecdote illustrative of the caution as well as doubt with which this enterprise was commenced. A few of the first numbers of the paper were struck off on the first day of April (we believe 1817).

On looking at it the thought occurred to Mr. Skinner that, on account of the date, it might be considered as an *April fool's day joke*, and lead to a defeat of the object. The paper was accordingly stopped and "April 2," inserted. Whatever might have been the fears of the projector of an enterprise which has proved so valuable to the nation, the result has proved that the April Fools are among those who do not patronize Agricultural periodicals rather than among those who do.

Among the most gratifying incidents of our visit to this city was an introduction to Mr. Sands, and also to Messrs. Worthington and Rogers.—Mr. Sands for a long series of years was the publisher and proprietor of this now venerable pioneer of Agricultural papers, and by his gentlemanly courtesy to all, and patient endurance under the many perplexities of a publisher's life, bore it along acceptably to the public, and of course successfully, until, retiring from his business, he handed it over to his successors, Messrs. Worthington & Rogers. Mr. Sands' name and labors will long live in the respect and esteem of that important class of the community, which he so ably and so faithfully served; and Messrs. Worthington & Rogers are conducting the work with a zeal, energy and system, which will continue to make the Old "American Farmer" a welcome and instructive guest at the fireside of every farmer in the land.

On Monday, it being the day for the session of the "convention of Agriculturalists" at the Patent Office in Washington, and that being the "point of our destination," we took the morning train and in a short time were landed in the federal city. On handing our letters and credentials to Mr. Brown, the chief of the Agricultural division, we were at once ushered into the hall where were gathering the individuals who constituted the convention, invited by the head of the department. There we found Representatives from almost every State and Territory in the Union; from Maine to Oregon, and as we were among them and of them, our kind and good natured readers will undoubtedly pardon us, when we say, in Yankee parlance—they were a set of mighty good looking fellows!

When the hour of organization arrived the convention with the most cordial unanimity chose Hon. Marshal P. Wilder, of Massachusetts, President, and Major Ben. Perley Poore, Secretary.—This was a good start. The organization having been effected, Mr. Brown came forward and stated the object of calling us together and what was expected of us.

In the discharge of his duties as chief of the Agricultural division he had found, not only a good deal of opposition from certain sources, from the diversity of opinions among people might be expected, but he found much greater and more serious difficulty in obtaining so much definite and reliable information as he ought to have in regard to Agricultural statistics and Agricultural practices with which to fill up his reports, and it was thought best by the Secretary of the Interior, of whose department this was a branch or division, to call together a convention of persons engaged in Agricultural pursuits and those acquainted with facts pertaining to those pursuits, from the different States and Territories, that they might confer together, advise upon the subject, and afford the desired information. In furtherance of this plan, a schedule of some fourteen or fifteen hundred questions was put into our hands, which it was expected we should revise and answer, either while here, or after our return home. Well, here was business enough with a vengeance; and it soon became apparent that even to a fair beginning, it would not do to imitate a certain other dignified body in a larger house, viz: the Capitol, at the other end of the Avenue, by making leisure the rule and work the exception, but that we must "up and be doing." As we had thus been ordained for the time being, an integral part of the Agricultural division of the Patent Office, it became a question of some importance by what name we should be designated. We of course were beginning to be a body of some consequence. Indeed, even at this early stage of our existence, we were thought to be, as a body, sufficiently developed to become an object of attack from one at least of the daily press in the city, who opened their ground tier upon us with a scurrility and malignity that would disgrace the veriest drab in Bedlam.

It was agreed, after considerable discussion, that an appropriate appellation would be "The Advisory Board of the Agricultural Division of the Patent Office." The next step was to lay out a programme of daily business. And it was finally concluded to divide the Board into districts seven in number, and the routine of daily business should be as follows: In the forenoon, a general meeting at ten o'clock, to which each chairman should report the progress of his division; they should follow reading of papers offered on subjects pertaining to Agriculture—discussions on general subjects and transaction of such business as might incidentally come before them. In the afternoon and evening, the several districts should go into their several committee rooms to

THE MURDER AT WASHINGTON.

The shooting of Key in the streets of Washington, on Sunday, 27th ult., by Slicks, which has made so much excitement, is only the legitimate fruits of the social system now in vogue in that metropolis. Had the test which Christ put to the clamorous Jews on a certain occasion, "let him that is without sin," been applied, there would have been no shooting. On the other hand, if all the sinners in that particular individual which led to the murder, were to be served as Key was, there would be a terrible slaughter there, in high places as well as in low.

Slicks led his wife into temptation. Had he placed her where she would have had the reasonable weight of domestic care that a wife and mother ought to have, instead of into the vortex of fashionable life and dissipation, she would probably have remained virtuous, and not have dishonored her sex. We heartily endorse the remarks of the Salem Register on this affair:

The assassination at Washington reveals a frightful laxity of morals, disregard of domestic fidelity, and violation of human and divine law in high public functionaries, and in the social circles of the commercial and national capitals. It exhibits the painful fact that adulterers and prostitutes have become the chief ornaments of the law, and are admitted into the highest social circles; that licentiousness and vice stalk boldly and unblushingly among the families of our metropolitans; and that crimes which meet perpetrate themselves without scruple, and perhaps pride themselves upon it. Ridiculous jesting, are not tolerated by them for a moment when their own rights are disregarded and their own laws violated; but that they may make our laws take judgment on their own hands, and without a moment's warning, shoot dead in the public streets, in the very precincts of the President's house, an offender real or supposed, rather than true to the vindication of the law, which is intended to protect the rights of the law.

There is something horrible in all this, and greatly to be deprecated, however strong the provocation. The portion relating to Siam will, perhaps, be found the most attractive. Here, in this Buddhist kingdom, where the labors of Protestant missionaries for many years have availed little or nothing, the people and rulers are described by Dr. W. as possessed of singular intelligence. One man in particular, a commoner, displayed much self-acquired learning and ingenuity. He had conceived the idea of compiling the laws of Siam, and publishing them in one work, to avoid the extreme labor and cost attendant upon copying them from the written laws. When the first volume and half of the second were completed, the king, becoming jealous of the knowledge thus made accessible to foreigners, seized the work. The present king, more liberal than his predecessor, has restored the printed volumes, by the sale of which the enterprising author has been enabled in some degree to meet the expenses of the publication. He had also worked out many difficult problems in physics, and manufactured scientific apparatus singularly adapted for the purposes for which it was designed. How the overtures of our government were received, and what cause of the interviews with the Siamese, are detailed in the book. Dr. Wood concludes the narrative with a history of the bombardment of the Barrier, and other forts in China, by the American vessels, and vindicates the American officers from the false representations made in regard to their conduct. The style of the work is pleasant and the interest well sustained.

IMPENDING CRISIS. We have received from the agent, Mr. Thorndike, a very instructive work on slavery in the United States, bearing the above title. It is from the pen of a gentleman in North Carolina, who is well acquainted with the operations of the "peculiar institution," both theoretically and practically. We shall examine the work more thoroughly, and notice more fully, Mr. Thorndike's agent for the sale of the work in this country.

HARPER'S MAGAZINE for March is received through A. Williams & Co., Boston. The illustrated articles are: "Mil. Vernon as it is"; "Crotone Water and its Inhabitants"; "Vasco Nunez Balbo"; and "The Virginians." The usual amount of literary matter is given, together with the monthly summary of news, fashions, comicities, Editor's drawer, &c. For sale by Pieres.

BLACKWOOD'S MAGAZINE. For the sale of this number of this reprint contains the following article: "Carlyle—Mirage Philosophy—Art of Frederick"; "How we went to Skye"; "Objetionable Books"; "Popular Literature"—part II.; "Rowinson's Herodotus"; "A Cruise in Japanese Waters"—part III. Published by Leonard Scott & Co., 79 Fulton St., New York, at \$3 a year.

GREAT REPUBLIC MONTHLY. The March number of this work is very fully illustrated. The leading article is entitled "Hengist and Mynydd—of the time of King Arthur of England," and is accompanied by seven beautiful and appropriate engravings. Other illustrated articles are: "The Newboys of New York"; "Wm. Hogarth"; "History of the Great Republic"; and "Seven Years in yo Western Land." Other sketches and poetry are given, and the fashions portrayed and described, and humorous engravings added to enhance the reader's enjoyment. Published by Goldsmith & Co., New York, at \$3 per annum.

NEW MUSIC. We have received the following pieces of new music, just issued by Messrs. O. Ditson & Co., Boston:

Mother Bailey—Song and Chorus. Inscribed to her memory by Carl Lorenz.

Heigho! for a husband! heigho!—words by Geo. P. Morris, and music by Henry Russell.

Songs of the Winds. By J. Clarke.

In silence sad hearts go—ballad from the opera of "Satanaella," by M. W. Balfe. Price 50cts.

My heart is sad without thee, love—song, by E. F. Galk.

Gentle River Waltz—composed for the piano, by J. Dayton.

The above, or any of the popular or scientific music of the day, sent free of postage on receipt of price.

TEMPERANCE SUPPER. We have received a communication from Mr. Turner, the Recording Scribbler of the Winthrop Sons of Temperance, by which we learn that this Division, and the lady visitors and other friends, had an exceedingly pleasant time one evening back.

They had been invited by E. W. Kelly, Esq. to meet him at the Town Hall, at a special meeting, where they found not only "troops of friends" which enlivened the social facilities, but also a first rate oyster supper for the refreshment and strengthening "old mortality" a little.

Among other pleasant things which took place, addresses on the importunity and necessity of temperance were made by Hon. S. P. Benson, Rev. C. C. Mason, Rev. Asbury Moore, Rev. R. Sawyer, Hon. Judge May, F. E. Webb, Esq., John E. May, Esq., and others.

At the close of the meeting the following resolve was unanimously passed:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Division are hereby tendered to our esteemed fellow-citizen, E. W. Kelly, Esq., for his whole-souled, generous and substantial entertainment this evening, as well as for the intellectual repast to which, by his invitation we have listened.

By these proofs of his interest in the welfare of this society, we are encouraged to go on without relaxation in the good work we have begun, until complete success has crowned our efforts.

AID TO SEMINARIES. Resolves have passed both branches of the Legislature, appropriating \$5000 each to the Maine Wesleyan and Westbrook Seminaries. This is one of the rare good deeds that our Legislatures sometimes perform for the benefit of the community, covering and stoning for a multitude of acts of doubtful if not hurtful character. For such prompt and generous appreciation of the claims of education, thousands throughout the State "will rise up and call them blessed."

LINESS OF NEW GLOUCESTER. A correspondent informs us that, on the night of the 25th ult., the dwelling of Mr. V. O. Torry, in New Gloucester, situated near the Shaker village, was entirely destroyed by fire,—doubtless the work of an incendiary, as the whole family were absent, having left the day previous. The furniture was saved. From another source we learn that the loss is estimated at \$3,500; no insurance.

ILLNESS OF THE POSTMASTER GENERAL. Postmaster General Brown is lying dangerously ill, in Washington. He was taken on Wednesday morning at 10, to allow Danville to come in; while Danville, by a vote of 180 to 70, declined to be united with Auburn. The result of this action is that the village part, only, of Danville is united to Auburn, while the remainder of the town continues as before.

DEATH OF A BOOK PUBLISHER. The Boston papers announced the death, at Brookline, on Thursday last, of Charles Sampson, of the well-known firm of Phillips, Sampson & Co., in the 42d year of his age. He is highly spoken of as a man of unsullied integrity, indomitable energy, and a firm, self-reliant judgment.

MUNICIPAL ELECTION. Our municipal election comes off on Monday next. The Republicans, on Saturday night, re-nominated James W. North, Esq., for Mayor. The Democrats have made no nomination as yet.

CONGRESSIONAL DOCUMENTS. Our thanks are due to Hon. F. H. Morse, W. P. Fessenden, H. Hamlin, and several other Members of Congress, for Congressional documents received during the session of Congress just ended.

THE MAINE FARMER: AN AGRICULTURAL AND FAMILY

EDITOR'S TABLE.

FANKWEI: Or the San Jacinto in the Seas of India, China, and Japan. By Wm. Maxwell Wood, M. D., U. S. N., late surgeon of the fleet to the U. S. East India Squadron. Now York: Harper & Bros.; Boston: A. Williams & Co.

The Chinese, who term their country the "central flower kingdom," and themselves "celestial," regard every western man as a "Fankwei," or "foreign devil," form the principal subject of this interesting work. The book is divided into three portions—"The voyage out"; "Siam and the Siamese"; and "In China." Information respecting the countries visited by the San Jacinto is scanty, and Dr. Wood has added much of interest to the little already known respecting them.

The portion relating to Siam will, perhaps, be found the most attractive. Here, in this Buddhist

kingdom, where the labors of Protestant missionaries for many years have availed little or nothing, the people and rulers are described by Dr. W. as possessed of singular intelligence. One man in particular, a commoner, displayed much self-acquired learning and ingenuity. He had conceived the idea of compiling the laws of Siam, and publishing them in one work, to avoid the extreme labor and cost attendant upon copying them from the written laws. When the first volume and half of the second were completed, the king, becoming jealous of the knowledge thus made accessible to foreigners, seized the work. The present king, more liberal than his predecessor, has restored the printed volumes, by the sale of which the enterprising author has been enabled in some degree to meet the expenses of the publication. He had also worked out many difficult problems in physics, and manufactured scientific apparatus singularly adapted for the purposes for which it was designed. The House took up the naval appropriation bill, and concurred in the amendment, reducing the appropriation for repairs, armaments, etc. of steamers, from \$3,100,000, to \$1,900,000, and the amendment reducing the appropriation for Navy Yards, from \$1,200,000, to \$130,000. The bill was then passed, and the miscellaneous appropriation bill was next taken up, and amended. The committee on accounts of Superintendents of public printing made their report, and the House adjourned.

On Monday, 23d ult., the Senate negatived a motion to take up the homestead bill, and proceeded to the consideration of the Post Office appropriation bill. Several amendments were adopted, but the Senate adjourned without definite action. The House took up the naval appropriation bill, and concurred in the amendment, reducing the appropriation for repairs, armaments, etc. of steamers, from \$3,100,000, to \$1,900,000, and the amendment reducing the appropriation for Navy Yards, from \$1,200,000, to \$130,000. The bill was then passed, and the miscellaneous appropriation bill was next taken up, and amended. The committee on accounts of Superintendents of public printing made their report, and the House adjourned.

On Tuesday, the Senate took up the Post Office bill. Mr. Yulee appended a clause raising the rate of postage to five cents and abolishing the franking privilege, which was adopted, 29 to 23. Other amendments were made, and the bill passed, 29 to 22. A motion to reconsider was lost. The naval appropriation bill was then taken up, and debated until 2 o'clock Wednesday morning, when, several amendments having been adopted, the Senate adjourned. The House amended and passed the miscellaneous appropriation bill. The Senate's amendments to the Army bill were then taken up in Committee of the Whole, and that appropriating \$227,000, the balance due Massachusetts on account of the war of 1812, was after debate agreed to.

On Wednesday, the Senate took up the miscellaneous appropriation bill. An amendment introduced by Mr. Hunter, from the finance committee, authorizing the President to issue Treasury notes for \$20,000,000, at 6 per cent interest, was adopted, 24 to 10. In the House, the most of the session was occupied in considering the Senate's amendments to the naval appropriation bill, most of which were adopted.

On Thursday, the miscellaneous appropriation bill was taken up by the Senate. After the adoption of several amendments, the bill was passed 35 to 20. A message was received from the President, appealing to Congress to preserve the credit of the country by making provision for the redemption of outstanding treasury notes. The House Conference Committee returned the Post Office Appropriation bill, with the intimation that the 13th section, raising the rate of postage, is in the nature of a revenue bill, which the Senate has no right to originate. The Senate adhered to its action, and returned the bill and resolved to the House. A conference committee was afterwards appointed. The bill to carry out the treaty with the Yancon and Sioux Indians, and the light house bill were passed. The session continued through the night, and until noon on Friday, when the Senate adjourned *sine die*. In the House, on motion of Mr. Grow, the Post Office appropriation bill was returned to the Senate, on the ground above stated. It was afterwards returned with a message assuring the constitutional rights of the Senate. A new bill, similar to the original Post Office appropriation bill, was introduced by Mr. Phelps, and passed unanimously. The session continued through the night. The bill was then taken up by the Senate, and passed 35 to 20. The committee on Post Office appropriation bill reported to the effect that neither House is understood to waive any constitutional right, it is recommended that the House pass the bill precisely as it came from the Senate on the 26th of February. Adopted, and the bill passed. At noon, the Speaker declared the House adjourned, *sine die*.

The extra session of the Senate commenced on Friday, at noon. We have, as yet, noted nothing of general importance in their doings. A dispatch from Washington, dated the 5th instant, says:—

There was a long debate in the secret session to-day on the nomination of Mr. Wiggin, of Maine, as Commissioner to settle the boundaries between the United States and Great Britain.

THE LOTTERY SWINDLES. Marshal Westcott, of Newburyport, Mass., arrested Daniel Palmer, Alonzo Shute, and Wm. P. Shute and wife, at Newfield, Me., on Sunday 27th ult. They are the proprietors of the swindling concern known as the New England Art Union, the discovery and breaking up of which we noticed in our last.

The Newburyport Herald, of the 4th, says:—

The latest swindler, Shute & Co., were haled out of jail on Wednesday, by parties in Haverhill and that vicinity. The bail for the three amounting to the nice little sum of \$24,000, and they finding persons who are willing to be responsible for that amount for their appearance, show how profitable has been their business. We understand they have retained for counsel Mr. Ditson & Co., Boston.

SAD ACCIDENT. A boy about ten years of age, son of Mr. John Keen of this city, recklessly attempted to spring upon a platform car of the freight train, while in motion, on Friday afternoon, of last week, but missing his foot in the snow, he fell with one leg upon the track, and the wheels of the car passing over it, crushed the bone between the knee and ankle in a most terrible manner. The boy was dragged by his mother, who was lying ill at the time, could be removed. The loss of Mr. Waterman, Esq., and his wife, who was pregnant, is estimated at \$500; that of Mr. Moore at \$700, and that of Mr. Snell at \$300. The buildings burned on the 30th for Corrington, which would all remain, excepting the Fulton, which would be removed, the steamer, the Relief, the Prairie or any of the vessels of the expedition, other than those mentioned above. Commissioner Bowlin says the Brazilian government tendered their mediation, but he informed them he had no authority to accept it.

ROBERT AND ARREST. Mr. Nath'l Pease of Parsonsfield, started from Portland for home in a punt a week or so since, with \$151 in his pocket. A sociable stranger, who said his name was Duglin, rode with him, and when a little distance on the road sociable stranger made a mistake, and got his hand in the wrong man's pocket, took Mr. Pease's punt book, and absconded. Mr. Pease gave the alarm and the fellow was captured, after throwing away the pocket book, which was afterwards found, with nearly all the money in it. Social stranger is now in jail.

DEATH OF AMERICANS IN CUBA. Some time in December last, two Americans were killed at the "Water Ferry, Cuba," by the cutting in of a bank of rocks, which had been arranged by the rebels. One of them was Mr. James Palmer of East Boston, a young man twenty-four years of age, who had been on the island but a few days, and entered upon his labors the day he was killed. The other man was Justin Palmer of Greenville, Me. He lived two days after the accident.

The late steamer, Shute & Co., were haled out to spring upon a platform car of the freight train, while in motion, on Friday afternoon, last, but missing his foot in the snow, he fell with one leg

THE MAINE FARMER: AN AGRICULTURAL

AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

LATEST NEWS FROM EUROPE.

ARRIVAL OF THE CITY OF BALTIMORE.

The steamship city of Baltimore arrived at New York on Tuesday of last week. Her arrival is to the 16th ult., four days later. The following comprises everything of importance:

GERALD BRITAIN. There has been a debate in the House of Lords on the right of search.

Malmsbury said the code of instructions for the suppression of the slave trade agreed to by England and France had been submitted to the United States.

Durand had promised to bring forward the Reform bill on the 28th of February. He also announced that the government would not give an unconditional guarantee to the Atlantic or any other submarine telegraph.

Lord Stanley's Indian finance statement shows losses of £21,000,000 sterling. Another loan of £7,000,000 will be required for the prosecution of the rebellion.

PARIS. Information from all parts of France shows that trade has relapsed, into complete stagnation without symptoms of improvement.

Stolen heavy failures have produced uneasiness, and in some manufacturing districts general distrust prevails.

The war panic appears to be dying out.

The Paris correspondents of the English press have little that is new upon the subject.

The correspondent of the New York says that all the efforts of France, England to induce France and Austria to agree upon a common ground for negotiations on the subject of Italy, have failed.

The Paris correspondent of the London Globe says that from Vincennes, Mentz, and every arsenal in France, guns and stores were on the move for the Mediterranean and Lyons.

The Paris correspondent of the London Daily News says that the Emperor is making preparations to go to Italy to indicate that he intends to take the field in person, and that it is certain he will be with the ambition to command an army in actual warfare.

The French budget shows an increased expenditure of 29,500,000 francs. The estimated income of revenue is 43,000,000.

AUSTRIA. According to a careful estimate in a French military journal, the strength of Austria in time of peace is represented by 400,000 men, and in time of war by 750,000 men.

The Oesterreichische Correspondent contains an article to the effect that it is admitted that the speech made by the Emperor Napoleon at the opening of the Legislative Assembly is calculated to dissipate the apprehensions of war which have recently been entertained in Europe, more particularly if it is followed by a cessation of the armaments which have been going forward in France.

The article intimates that Austria is quite willing to take a hand in the war, and that the Emperor, on the subject of the occupation of Central Italy, whatever may be agreed on between the two warring powers, has no doubt that matters will thus be brought to a successful result.

It was generally believed that the bids in London for the six million Austrian loan were only between one million and one million five hundred thousand pounds.

JAPAN. French advice has been received from Japan to the 20th November. The new Emperor, Foi Taigo, had just issued an edict, having for its object the reorganization of the military forces, and the establishment of a permanent council, which will sit at Edo, and which will be composed of Hayashi Daiga-ku-No-Cami, privy councillor of the Emperor, and two princes of the royal family. The edict has been issued in a very liberal spirit. It repeats that the exercise of the Roman Catholic religion is permitted to all, and that the introduction of science and of the arts of war, and of navigation, is to be encouraged.

The Japanese government has issued a decree that the introduction of opium is still prohibited throughout the whole of the empire.

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THE MAINE FARMER: AN

The Muse.

From the Atlantic Monthly.

THE OPENING OF THE PIANO

In the little southern Parlor of the house you may have seen With the gambrel-roof, and the gables looking westward to the green, At the side toward the sunset, with the window on its right, Stood the London-made piano I am dreaming of to-night.

Ah me! how I remember the evening when it came! What a cry of eager voices, what a group of cheeks in flame,

When a wonderous box was opened that had come from over seas,

With its smell of mastic-varnish and its flash of ivory keys!

Then the children all grew freiful in the restlessness of joy.

For the boy would pull his sister, and the sister pull the boy.

Till the piano asked for quiet in his grave paternal way,

But the mother hushed the tumult with the words, "Now, Mary, play."

For the dear soul knew that music was a very sovereign balm;

She had sprinkled it over Sorrow and seen its balm grow calm.

In the tones of slender harpsicords with tapping tickling quills,

Or carolling to her spine with its thin metallic thrills.

So Mary, the household minstrel, who always loved to please,

Sat down to the new "Clementi," and struck the glittering keys.

Hushed were the children's voices, and every eye grew dim,

As, floating from lip and finger, arose the "Vesper hymn."

Catharine, child of a neighbor, curly and rosy-red, (Wedded since, and a widow—since like ten years dead.)

Hearing the music such as none before,

Steals from her mother's chamber and peeps at the open door.

Just as the "Jubilantes" in threaded whisper dies,

"Open it! open it, lady! the little maiden cries,

(For she thought 'twas a singing creature caged in a box she heard.)

"Open it! open it, lady! and let me see the bird!"

THE OLD FOLKS' ROOM.

The old man sat by the chimney side, His back was writhed and wan, And he leant both hands on his stout oak cane As if all his work was done.

His coat was of good old fashioned gray.

The pocketts were deep and wide.

Where his "peep" and his steel tobacco box Lay snugly side by side.

The old man liked to stir the fire, So near him the songs were kept;

Sometimes he used to gaze at the coals, Sometimes he sat and slept.

What was in the ember there?

Ab! pictures of other years;

And now and then they wakened smiles, But often started tears.

His good wife sat on the other side,

In a high-backed, red seat chair,

They're bravely won the world's strife,

They're bravely won the world's strife,

The stern fierce battle of life.

They taught our youthful feet to climb Up life's rugged steps,

Then let us lead them gently down To where the weary sleep.

The Story Teller.

THE COBBLER'S TEMPTATION.

Jacob Gropp sat in his little shop upon his little low bench, and he pegged and tapped away merrily upon his well known knews. He was a jolly fellow, this Jareb. Poor, "tis true, but just poor enough to be free from care. He owned the roofed box in which he worked, and so he owned the little thatched cot joining it. In the cot he lived with his wife and seven children, and in the shop he worked cheerfully all the day long. He was not afraid of robbers, for he had nothing worth carrying off; and he feared no man, for he never did a wrong.

A merry fellow was Jacob Gropp. He sang as he pegged, and his joyous notes lacked only musical sound to make them attractive. He was built after the same pattern as were his cot and shop. He was short and dumpy, with a round, shiny, good natured face, and with a bald pate, though he was five and forty years old.

"Troll-de-ro-lol-lard!" sang Jacob.

"Fol-de-ro-de-riddle-de-rimton!" sounded a voice from the inner door.

Jareb looked up and saw his wife.

Just a match for Jareb, for all the world. Short, fat, clean, good-natured and happy as a queen. She was dressed neatly for all her poverty, and the flush of health glowed upon her plump cheeks.

"Duck," said Jareb, "the likes o' this never happened afor."

"What is it, my own sugar plum?" asked Hepzibath.

Hepzibath was her name, though she hadn't heard it pronounced in full for years.

"D'yee see this shoe, delight?"

"Yes, my love."

"Tis the last work o' the castle. Not another place to a peg have I got by me. We'll shut the gates, lower the draw-bridge, put the warder on guard, and call out our coach, eh?"

"Ye mean, we'll go and walk, peppermint?"

"I do, my treasure."

"Shall I put on my silk, or satin? or my new velvet?"

"Put on all of them, my dear. We'll make an appearance. Hi-fol-de-ro-de-ro! There (ap) that's the last peg, and old Smith's shoes are done. Smith—Smith—didn't you ever feel thankful your name warn't Smith. Happy eh? There was a Smith put in jail last week for robbin' somebody. But yo never heard tell of a Gropp been put in jail, now. Now, my maple sugar, we'll be off. Bring up the little Groppes."

Hardly had Jareb departed, when a man made an appearance at the shop door. He was an old man, very well dressed in black throughout, carrying a gold headed cane, and wearing a watch chain of the same precious material."

"Are you a cobbler?" he asked as he entered.

"I was two minutes ago, sir; but I'm an old feudal baron now, sir! Lady Gropp is going to ride out, sir, and I'm to attend her."

"Eh—are you the man, that does mending, mending boots and shoes?" asked the visitor, moving back a pace, as though he feared the strange fellow before him was crazy.

"Yes, sir," answered Jareb. "I'm the man."

But ye see, my wife hasn't walked out for more'n a month. I just toss'd off the last bit of work I had in the shop. I've hurried it amazingly, and was just agoin' to take a run down by the river with her and the little ones."

"Aha—I see," said the old gentleman, smiling. "Now you just run and tell your lady to wait for you half an hour, and I'll satisfy her for it. I am in a hurry. The stage leaves in an hour, and my boot has given out. Come, you won't refuse to assist me under such circumstances?"

AGRICULTURAL AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

Sabbath Reading.

For the Maine Farmer.

PHILIP THE SECOND.

We extract the following sketch from the third volume of Prescott's *Philip the Second*. It gives a graphic and vivid sketch of the most inscrutable Philip:

"Philip, unlike most of his predecessors, rarely took his seat in the council of state. It was his maxim that his ministers would more freely discuss measures in the absence of their master than when he was there to avert them. The course he adopted was to be a *consul*, or a committee of two or three members, to wait on him in his cabinet, and report to him the proceedings of the council. He more commonly, especially in the later years of his reign, preferred to receive a full report of the discussion, written so as to leave an ample margin for his own commentaries. They were eminently characteristic of the man, and were so minute as usually to cover several sheets of paper. Philip had a reserved and unsocial temper. He preferred to work alone, in the absence of his closest, rather than in the presence of others. This may explain the reason, in part, why he seemed so much to prefer writing to talking. Even with his private secretaries, who were always near at hand, he chose to communicate by writing; and they had as large a mass of his autograph notes in their possession, as if the correspondence had been carried on from different parts of the kingdom. His thoughts too—at any rate his words—came slowly; and by writing he gained time for the utterance of them.

Philip had been accused of indolence. As far as the body was concerned, such an accusation was well founded. Even when young, he had no fondness, as we have seen, for the robust and chivalrous sports of the age. He never, like his father, conducted military expeditions in person.

It is to be noted that he was a great admirer of writing, and that he was fond of reading.

Philip was a man of great energy, but he had no fondness for the robust and chivalrous sports of the age. He never, like his father, conducted military expeditions in person.

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